

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-81. (Cancelled)

82. (Previously Presented) A method for simultaneously detecting the presence of at least two different metalloproteinases in a chronic wound of a human or an animal, the method comprising:

a) collecting a sample of fluid from the chronic wound, the sample comprising at least two different metalloproteinases;

b) exposing the sample to a plurality of target antibodies, wherein a first target antibody is configured to bind with a first metalloproteinase to form a first target antibody/metalloproteinase complex, and a second target antibody is configured to bind with a second metalloproteinase to form a second target antibody/metalloproteinase complex; and

c) simultaneously identifying the first metalloproteinase and the second metalloproteinase by determining the presence or absence of a detectable or measurable manifestation of a first signal element bound to the first target antibody and a second signal element bound to the second target antibody.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the first target antibody is configured to preferentially bind to a proenzyme form of the first metalloproteinase.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein the proenzyme form of the first metalloproteinase is selected from the group consisting of proMMP-1, proMMP-8, and proMMP-9.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, further comprising exposing the sample to a third target antibody, wherein the third target antibody is configured to preferentially bind to an active form of the first metalloproteinase.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein at least one of the first target antibody and the second target antibody is a polyclonal antibody.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the first target antibody is configured to preferentially bind to the active form of the first metalloproteinase.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein the active form of the first metalloproteinase is selected from the group consisting of MMP-1, MMP-8, and MMP-9.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the first target antibody is bound directly to a particle and the particle is bound directly to the first signal element.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the first signal element and the second signal element are the same.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the first signal element and the second signal element are different.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the first and second signal elements are each independently selected from the group consisting of colorimetric compounds, radio-active compounds, potentiometric elements, fluorescent compounds, chemo-illuminiscent compounds, light diffracting elements, and combinations thereof.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, further comprising exposing the sample to a plurality of capture antibodies, wherein each capture antibody is immobilized within a different reaction site, the manifestation of each signal element being identified at each reaction site.

94. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 93, wherein the target antibodies and the signal elements are contained in a sample reservoir prior to exposure to the sample.

95. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 94, wherein the reaction sites are in fluid communication with the sample reservoir.

96. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95, wherein a collection area is positioned in fluid communication with the reaction sites.